

Board (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Board"), which shall be composed of 11 members appointed in accordance with subsection (b), and shall conduct its business in accordance with this Act.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

(1) **MEMBERS.**—The members of the Board shall be individuals with knowledge or expertise, whether by experience or training, in the field of public safety, of which—

(A) two shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate;

(B) two shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

(C) two shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(D) two shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and

(E) three shall be appointed by the President, including one with experience in firefighting, one with experience in law enforcement, and one with experience in emergency services.

(2) **TERM.**—The term of a Board member shall be 4 years.

(3) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy in the membership of the Board shall not affect the powers of the Board and shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(4) **OPERATION OF THE BOARD.**—

(A) **MEETINGS.**—The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman, who shall be elected by the Board, and shall meet not less than twice each year. The initial meeting of the Board shall be conducted not later than 90 days after the appointment of the last member of the Board.

(B) **VOTING AND RULES.**—A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum to conduct business, but the Board may establish a lesser quorum for conducting hearings scheduled by the Board. The Board may establish by majority vote any other rules for the conduct of the Board's business, if such rules are not inconsistent with this Act or other applicable law.

(c) **DUTIES.**—The Board shall select candidates as recipients of the Medal of Valor from among applications received by the National Medal Office. Not more than once each year, the Board shall present to the Attorney General the name or names of persons it recommends as Medal of Valor recipients. In a given year, the Board is not required to select any recipients, but is limited to a maximum number of 10 recipients. The Attorney General may in extraordinary cases increase the number of recipients in a given year. The Board shall set an annual timetable for fulfilling its duties under this Act.

(d) **HEARINGS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Board may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, administer such oaths, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Board considers advisable to carry out its duties.

(2) **WITNESS EXPENSES.**—Witnesses requested to appear before the Board may be paid the same fees as are paid to witnesses under section 1821 of title 28, United States Code. The per diem and mileage allowances for witnesses shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Board.

(e) **INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—The Board may secure directly from any Federal department or agency such information as the Board considers necessary to carry out its duties. Upon the request of

the Board, the head of such department or agency may furnish such information to the Board.

(f) **INFORMATION TO BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.**—The Board shall not disclose any information which may compromise an ongoing law enforcement investigation or is otherwise required by law to be kept confidential.

**SEC. 4. BOARD PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

(a) **COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS.**—

(1) **NON-GOVERNMENT.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), each member of the Board shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which such member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Board.

(2) **GOVERNMENT.**—All members of the Board who serve as officers or employees of the United States, a State, or local government, shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for those services.

(b) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—The members of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter 1 of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Board.

**SEC. 5. NATIONAL MEDAL OFFICE.**

There is established within the Department of Justice a national medal office. The office shall generally support the Board and shall, with the concurrence of the Board, establish criteria and procedures for the submission of recommendations of nominees for the Medal of Valor.

**SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

For purposes of this Act—

(1) the term "public safety officer" means a person serving a public agency, with or without compensation, as a firefighter, law enforcement officer (including a corrections or court officer or a civil defense officer), or emergency services officer, as defined by the Attorney General in implementing this Act; and

(2) the term "State" means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

**SEC. 8. CONFORMING REPEAL.**

Section 15 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 is repealed.

**SEC. 9. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.**

The Attorney General shall consult with the Institute of Heraldry within the Department of Defense regarding the design and artistry of the Medal of Valor. The Attorney General shall also consider suggestions received by the Department of Justice regarding the design of the medal, including those made by persons not employed by the Department.

**ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1999**

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 19. I further ask that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**PROGRAM**

Mr. HATCH. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene at 10 a.m. and immediately resume debate on the juvenile justice bill. New amendments to that legislation can be offered until 12:20 p.m. during tomorrow's session. At 12:20 p.m., the Senate will begin debate on amendments Nos. 357, 358, 360, and 361, which were previously offered to the bill. Senators can expect a stacked series of four votes to begin at 1 p.m. I encourage my colleagues to offer their amendments tomorrow morning so that we can finish this important legislation in a timely manner.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW**

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:44 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 19, 1999, at 10 a.m.

**NOMINATIONS**

Executive nominations received by the Senate May 18, 1999:

**NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

JACK E. HIGHTOWER, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 19, 1999.

VICE ROBERT S. WILLARD, RESIGNED.

JACK E. HIGHTOWER, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 19, 2004.

(REAPPOINTMENT)

**FOREIGN SERVICE**

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSON OF THE AGENCY INDICATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF THE CLASS STATED, AND ALSO FOR THE OTHER APPOINTMENTS INDICATED HEREWITH:

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

STEPHEN A. DODSON, OF TEXAS